

**Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development****Grants to Named Recipients (AS 37.05.316)****Grant Recipient: Alaska Association Of School Boards****Project Title:**

# Alaska Association of School Boards - Consortium for Digital Learning Project Initiative

**State Funding Requested: \$ 5,000,000****House District: Statewide (1-40)**

One-Time Need

**Brief Project Description:**

The Association of Alaska School Boards' Consortium for Digital Learning initiative (AASB-CDL) was launched to further expand AASB's efforts to improve statewide student achievement.

**Funding Plan:****Total Cost of Project: \$5,000,000**

	<u>Funding Secured</u>		<u>Other Pending Requests</u>		<u>Anticipated Future Need</u>	
	<i>Amount</i>	<i>FY</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>FY</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>FY</i>
State Funds	\$5,000,000	2007				
Total	\$5,000,000					

**Detailed Project Description and Justification:**

In a digital learning environment, each student is provided with a laptop with wireless capability, enabling communication and collaboration among peers and teachers, extending the learning day, and more closely connecting parents to the educational process.

AASB is committed to the idea that creating digital learning environments in our schools will help all students reach their potential and raise their achievement levels, allowing them to take advantage of economic development opportunities in all regions of our state and lead successful lives in an increasingly global economy. AASB worked closely with industry leader Apple, Inc. to articulate an Alaska digital learning vision designed to secure state funding to assist districts statewide in establishing 1 to 1 learning environments.

In spring of 2006, the 24th Alaska Legislature awarded \$5 million in capital funds to the AASB Consortium for Digital Learning (AASB-CDL). These funds allowed the Consortium to support 18 school district projects, providing two-thirds of the initial costs, including initial technology hardware, ongoing staff training, and technical assistance over the 4-year project.

Providing students with access to a laptop on a consistent 24-hour basis extends their learning process outside the classroom and into the home. Sharing lessons, homework, and projects stored on the laptop with family creates connections and allows parents to assume a more active role in their child's academic learning. In the process, students gain familiarity with technology tools they'll need as adults, while building skills such as communication, problem solving, and critical thinking necessary to succeed in their work and life.

AASB-CDL continues to seek funding from state, federal, foundation and corporate sponsors for expansion of this statewide initiative to better prepare all of Alaska's students for the challenges they will face in the 21st century.

**Project Timeline:**

2008-2009

**Entity Responsible for the Ongoing Operation and Maintenance of this Project:**

Alaska Association of School Boards

**Grant Recipient Contact Information:**

Contact Name: Carl Rose

Phone Number: 586-1083

Address: 1111 West 9th Street, Juneau, Alaska 99801

Email: aasb@aasb.org

Has this project been through a public review process at the local level and is it a community priority? ☒ Yes ☐ No